# Context, Thought, and Learning: ShiraDest publications Offers Project Do Better

*About Project Do Better Manual & Handouts -Phase I: Public Transit, Public Libraries, Public Education, and Public Health Care Homepage (click here for Do Better book…)*

# Health care, and Three lost generations

February 11, 12026 Health Care autobiography, BlackHistory, dc, familyhistory, UniversalHealthCare ShiraDestProjectDoBetter

. So, my great great grandfather died of lung problems, untreated as far as I know, and then his daughter, my great grandmother Senora Mayo, daughter of a self admittedly not well woman Celeste Armstrong, who was also unfortunately married to my gr gr grandfather, which could not have helped her health, dies of TB during the great depression, leaving my grandmother Laverne an orphan, left back east in DC as her two siblings get sent out to California. And Grandma Laverne , before she had three strokes and always kept her hair plaited in two pig tails, from as far back as I can remember her , clearly seems to have looked quite different, when she was younger. And healthy. At least physically , from

her appearance there, with my grandfather. Later in life, though, it is clear that all three of them, Celeste Armstrong Mayo, Senora Mayo Hall, and Laverne Hall, my great great grandmother, my great grandmother, and my grandmother, were failed by a healthcare system that works far better for many other American people. And we could change that. Especially when we start with the youngest generations. We have solid evidence that early childhood interventions in both the medical sphere and the educational sphere make a

**Project Do Better:**

world of difference. Let's do better for all of our world.

**Enough For All, in Four Phases**

. Ni, for ***The Project Do Better by ShiraDest Publications Fund*** for *Bright Beginnings in DC* via The Greater Washington Community Foundation **GWCF**

Advertisement

norton
Recognized by Tom's Guide for streaming performance.
Norton Secure VPN
Shop now
As reviewed by Tom's Guide. Tom's Guide® is a registered trademark of Future plc and used under license.

## *About ShiraDestProjectDoBetter*

D. Antonia ("Nia") Jones is founder of #ProjectDoBetter, a long term plan proposal for community building, and a published poet, academic author, and advocate for improving our #PublicDomainInfrastructure. Her other book, Stayed on Freedom's Call, on Black-Jewish Cooperation in DC, is freely available via the Internet Archive. She has organized community events such as film discussions, multi-ethnic song events, and cooperative presentations, and is a native of Washington, DC. She promotes peaceful planning, NVC and the

Holocene Calendar, and is also a writer. More information at https://shiradest.wordpress.com/ View all posts by ShiraDestProjectDoBetter →

# *2 thoughts on “Health care, and Three lost generations”*

June 29, 12026 at 13:08

★ ShiraDestProjectDoBetter

And my great grandmother Senora Mayo (Hall)’s obituary does not even mention her bio mother, but rather, Hayes Wheeler Mayo’s second wife, with whom she never got along, and was the apparent reason that grandma Senora went to live, by the time she was 14 in the census records, with Grandma Marie and Grandpa Johnson as adoptive mother and step-father, according to official records. Celeste Armstrong Mayo of NC has been entirely cut out of the historical record, and if it were not for Grandma Marie telling me of their friendship, I’d never have known that she was the one who raised my great grandmother, not Bessie, second wife of Hayes W. Mayo, who got his burial space at Arlington, rather than his unwell first wife, my great gr grandmother Celeste. Just attached the obit but cannot find it now.

Even the history of the marginalized is written by the only slightly less marginalized. This also explains a bit more of why my grandmother always insisted that we were Black, just Black, and only Black, when I’d ask why the other Black kids were beating me up because I looked to much like a red Indian. Back in the 70’s, when my mother claimed to have been a member of AIM, it was really not ok to be an Indian, or mixed, as we said back then, of any person with Native American and Negro blood.

Nia

★ Liked by you

June 29, 12026 at 13:14

★ ShiraDestProjectDoBetter

And here is info. from her Death Certificate:

Name:

Celeste Mayo

Gender:

Female

Race:

Col.

Occupation:

Domestic

Death Age:

27

Marital status:

Divorced

Birth Date:

1886

Birth Place:

North Carolina

Death Date:

18 Feb 1913

Death Place:

District of Columbia

Burial Date:

21 Feb 1913

Burial Place:

Elm City, N.C.

Father:

[No Name]

Mother:

[No Name]

FHL Film Number:

2115607

Reference ID:

cn2098454

★ Liked by you and 1 other person